**EDUCATION**

Aug 2018-Present **PhD Candidate, Colorado State University,** Fort Collins, CO

Department of Anthropology and Geography

Supervisor: Michael Pante

Aug 2013-Aug 2015 **Master of Arts, The George Washington University**, Washington D.C.

Department of Anthropology

Advisor(s): David R. Braun & Susana Carvalho

Aug 2009-Dec 2012  **Bachelor of Science, Southern Connecticut State University**, New Haven, CT

Major: Anthropology Concentration: Archaeology

Cum Laude, Departmental Honors, Excellence in Anthropology, Dean’s List

Advisor: Valerie Andrushko Thesis Advisor: Michael J. Rogers

**FIELD WORK EXPERIENCE:**

2013 (Jan) **West Coast Research Project**--Elandsfontein, Western Cape, South Africa.

Supervisor: David R. Braun (The George Washington University).

Intern and Research Assistant:

* Assisted in the logistics of running an archaeological dig site.
* Aided students with logistics and supervision of experimental animal butchery.

2012 (Feb-March) **Gona Paleoanthropology Research Project**--Gona, Afar, Ethiopia.

Supervisor: Michael J. Rogers (Southern Connecticut State University).

Intern:

* Engaged in daily research activities including excavation and cataloging of archaeological and paleontological materials.
* Conducted experimental archaeological replication experiments as a means for collecting data for honors thesis.

2012 (Jan) **West Coast Research Project**--Elandsfontein, Western Cape, South Africa.

Supervisor: David R. Braun (The George Washington University).

Intern and Research Assistant:

* Assisted in the logistics of running an archaeological dig site.
* Aided students with logistics and supervision of experimental animal butchery.

2011 (Summer) **Koobi Fora Paleoanthropological Field School**--Koobi Fora, Kenya.

Supervisors: Jack Harris (Rutgers University) and David R. Braun (The George Washington University).

Intern:

* Managed communication between students and Instructors.
* Assisted in stone tool manufacture exercise; demonstrating proper conchoidal fracture mechanics in stone tool manufacture for undergraduate students.
* Assisted with logistics in organizing and preparing research and academic activities for undergraduate students.

2011 (Jan-Feb) **Gona Paleoanthropological Research Project**--Gona, Afar, Ethiopia.

Supervisor: Michael J. Rogers. (Southern Connecticut State University).

Intern:

* Cataloged, cleaned, and identified stone tools and associated fossil remains from several localities at the National Museum of Ethiopia, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

**PUBLICATIONS AND CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS:**

June 2019 **Poster: European Society for the study of Human Evolution**

**Stone selection by Chimpanzees Reveals Parallel Patterns to Oldowan Hominins**

Carvalho, S.\*1,2, 3, Braun, D. R.\*1,4, **Kaplan, R. S**.4, Beardmore-Herd M.1, Plummer T.5,6, Biro, D.7 Matsuzawa T.8

November 2018 **Poster: Colorado State University Graduate Student Showcase**

R.S. Kaplan. “Mechanical Properties Influence Chimpanzee Tool Selection for Nut Cracking.

August 2018 **Publication: International Journal of Osteoarchaeology**

Briana L. Pobiner, Charles P. Higson, Kris Kovarovic, **R. S. Kaplan**, Jacklyn Rogers, & William Schindler. “Experimental Butchery Study Investigating the Influence of Timing of Access and Butcher Experience on Cut Mark Variables”. 2018

April 2016 **Poster: 2016 Paleoanthropology Society:**

Braun, D.R., S. Carvalho, **R.S. Kaplan**, D. Biro, T. Plummer and T. Matsuzawa

“Chimpanzee tool use involves an understanding of mechanical properties of stones: a comparison with the Oldowan archaeological record”.

Dec. 2015 **Poster: 2016 Algrave Workshop on Raw Material Selectivity in Human Evolution:**

Susana Carvalho, Braun, David R., **R.S. Kaplan**, Dora Biro, Tetsuro Matsuzawa.

“Mechanical properties of stones influences decision in chimpanzees and hominins”

Aug. 2015 **Master’s Thesis:**

“Quantifying selection in chimpanzee tool use at Bossou, Guinea: Novel material property tests of the archaeological record”

April 2015 **Poster: 2015 Society of American Archaeologists:**

Ranhorn, Kathryn, Francys Subiaul, David Braun, Alison Brooks, **R. S. Kaplan** "Detecting signatures of cultural transmission: an actualistic study”

Dec. 2014 **Undergraduate Honors Thesis:**

“Hammerstone analysis: a replication and comparative study of the oldest hammerstones in the archaeological record found at Gona, Afar, Ethiopia”

**TEACHING AND LECTURES**

Fall 2018 – Present **Colorado State University**

Graduate Teaching Assistant

“Human Origins and Variation Lab”

* Lead course discussions on topics of evolutionary genetics, Evolutionary theory, Methods in Biological Anthropology and Archaeology, and the fossil record.
* Conducted laboratory-based assignments to encourage hands on learning.

Fall 2016 - 2018 **Montgomery College, MD**

Instructor

“Human Evolution and Archaeology”:

* Lead course discussions on topics of evolutionary genetics, Evolutionary theory, Methods in Biological Anthropology and Archaeology, and the fossil record.
* Conducted laboratory based assignments to encourage hands on learning.

August 2016 **Smithsonian Institute National Museum of Natural History**

The Scientist is In: Public outreach Programming

* Interacted with museum visitors of all ages to discuss various topics in human evolution and human origins.

Spring 2016 **Montgomery College, MD**

Guest Lecturer

“The origins of technology: an introduction to the archaeological record”

Fall 2014-2015 **The George Washington University**

Graduate Teaching Assistant, Introduction to Biological Anthropology:

* Led discussion and laboratory section where students were exposed to methods of analysis in biological anthropology.

Spring 2014 **The George Washington University**

Graduate Teaching Assistant, African Roots: Australopithecus to Zimbabwe:

* Graded writing assignments and organized online course content.
* Led peer review and edit discussion sections of the course in accordance with the George Washington University “Writing in the Disciplines” guidelines.

Fall 2013 **The George Washington University**

Graduate Student Grader

“Cultures of Africa”

* Graded writing and other course assignments.
* Provided feedback to students.
* Met with students in a 1:1 scenario to provide extracurricular support of course content.

2011-2012 **Tour guide at the West Rock Nature Center** (WRNC)-1 archaeological site.

* Provided educational tours to undergraduate students and their families during parents’ weekend at Southern Connecticut State University.

Spring 2011 **Southern Connecticut State University** Undergraduate Teaching Assistant

“Human Osteology”

* Provided logistical support for the professor in organizing lab exercises, exams and grading assignments for students.

**EMPLOYMENT HISTORY**

2014-2016 **Smithsonian Institution National Museum of Natural History: Human Origins Program**

Internship: Digitization of public responses to the Human Origins Traveling Exhibit and assisting with in the design and editing of a laboratory “Skull Activity” for the Human Origins Program’ traveling library exhibit.

2004 – 2013 **Shubert Performing Arts Center**, New Haven, CT

Security and Operations Assistant: Maintained the historic Shubert Theater and prepared the theater for public access during concerts, theatrical performances, and parties. Also worked technical productions with the IATSE local stagehand union to produce theatrical performances.